

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01 PM-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8688

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM CI

SUBJ: CHILE BEFORE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. MISOFF MET WITH UK REP (DAVID BROAD) AT LATTER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS TREATMENT OF CHILE PROBLEM AT FORTHCOMING MEETING OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (FEB 1975). BROAD EXPLAINED THAT UK HOPED TO AVOID REPETITION OF 29TH UNGA SCENARIO IN WHICH UK AND OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FOUND THEMSELVES JOINED WITH "STRANGE BEDFELLOWS" (I.E., COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES) IN COSPONSORING A SOMEWHAT BIASED RES. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT PUBLIC OPINION IN UK WAS SUCH THAT THEY WOULD FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO OPPOSE ANY RES CONDEMNING ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE. ACCORDINGLY, HE WAS INFORMALLY EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING TOGETHER A MODERATE COALITION OF WEOS, LAS, AND PERHAPS ASIANS AND SOME AFRICANS WITH A VIEW TO PRODUCING A MORE BALANCED RES AT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. THEORETICALLY, SUCH A RES COULD CONTAIN STATEMENT OF CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT ALLEGED VIOLATIONS, RECOGNITION OF AREAS OF PROGRESS, AND SOME SORT OF PROCEDURAL MECHANISM WHICH COULD PRODUCE A FINAL REPORT ON THE SITUATION, FINAL IN THE SENSE THAT UN BODIES WOULD NOT BE SEIZED OF PROBLEM IN FUTURE.

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2. BROAD FELT THAT TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS EFFORT, IT ESSENTIAL TO GET A READING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON CHILEAN INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO THEIR ACTIVITIES AT THE HRC MEETING AND, MORE GENERALLY, WITH REGARD TO THEIR PERMITTING THE SORT OF INVESTIGATIONS WHICH MIGHT MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO PRODUCE A "FINAL" REPORT. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF WE COULD INFORMALLY EXPLORE THESE POINTS WITH OUR COUNTERPARTS IN THE CHILEAN MISSION.

3. MISOFF NOTED THAT WE TOO WERE HOPEFUL THAT PROBLEM OF CHILE WOULD BE DEALT WITH MORE SYMPATHETICALLY AT HRC AND THAT EARLY EFFORTS TO FORM MODERATE COALITION TO THIS END SEEMED USEFUL. IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC REQUEST, MISOFF STATED MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO DEPT.

4. COMMENT: MISSION BELIEVES UK INITIATIVE WELL WORTH SUPPORTING. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED QUESTION WITH CHILEAN MISSION TO UN AND, IN ANY EVENT, BELIEVE GOC POLICY GUIDELINES WILL BE SET IN SANTIAGO. IF DEPT CONCURS, RECOMMEND AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO EXPLORE WITH CHILEAN AUTHORITIES THEIR VIEWS ON HOW PROBLEM CAN BE HANDLED AT FORTHCOMING HRC AND, IN PARTICULAR, DEGREE THEY WILL SUPPORT HRC INVESTIGATORY EFFORTS.

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